

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: April 23, 2012

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 12: Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with National Park Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority for preparation of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area trail management plan and joint EIR/EIS.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with National Park Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority for preparation of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area trail management plan and joint EIR/EIS.

Background: Please see attached Draft MOU. The Trail Management Plan for the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area has been in preparation for a number of years, with the joint cooperation of the staffs of the National Parks Service (NPS), California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), the Conservancy, and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). An Environmental Impact Report and federal Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared. Finalization of the Trail Plan and the environmental documents will be undertaken primarily by NPS and State Parks but MRCA will continue to be involved with information sharing and some technical and Finance Department staff support, via an existing Task Agreement that will provide funding for consultant services and staff time.